

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED • BY • CONGRESS • MAY • 17, 1910

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

202-566-1066

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

15 November 1989

AM 10:00 CONVENE, 708 Jackson Place, N. W., Washington, D. C.

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Approval of minutes:

19 October 1989

B. Dates of next meetings:

14 December 1989 (Thursday)

18 January 1990 (Thursday)

C. Museum of Natural History. Parking lot security lighting; report.

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

A. Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation

CFA 15/Nov/89-1, ICTC (International Cultural and Trade Center), Federal Triangle Development site, 14th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W.

B. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District

CFA 15/Nov/89-2, Walter Reed Army Medical Center. Design for multi-level parking structure.

C. General Services Administration, National Capital Region

CFA 15/Nov/89-3, U.S. Tax Court, cooling tower addition, Second and E Streets, N. W.
Revised design. (Previous: CFA 26/Jul/89-4.)

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS continued, 15 November 1989

D. Department of the Treasury, U. S. Mint

CFA 15/Nov/89-4, Jesse Owens Medal. Designs.

E. District of Columbia Government, Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs

1. Shipstead-Luce Act

- a. S.L. 90-10, 2301 N Street, N. W.
Multi-story residential building.
Permit. (Previous: S.L. 89-43,
S.L. 87-123.)
- b. S.L. 90-09, 2450 N Street, N. W.
Multi-story office/residential building.
Permit. (Previous: S.L. 89-33.)
- c. S.L. 90-11, Corcoran Gallery of Art.
Modification of previously approved
garage entrance on E Street. Conceptual.
(Previous: S.L. 88-83.)
- d. Appendix I.

2. Old Georgetown Act

- a. O.G. 89-270, 1217 Potomac Street, N. W.
Alterations and two-story addition.
Conceptual. (Previous: O.G. 87-166.)
- b. O.G. 89-229, 2715 Q Street, N. W.
National Society of Colonial Dames,
Dumbarton House. Renovation and
additions. Conceptual. (Previous:
O.G. 87-211, O.G. 87-186, O.G. 87-142.)
- c. O.G. 90-02, 3401 R Street, N. W.
Alteration to existing front porch.
Permit. (Previous: O.G. 87-168.)
- d. Appendix II.

SHIPSTEAD-LUCE SUBMISSIONS

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
* S.L. 90-05	7010 Oregon Avenue, N.W. Grey and Lurie Emmons Residence	Addition - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed addition as shown in working drawings and supplementals which comply with previously approved concept. See previous Action (S.L. 89-187).

S.L. 90-06	2044 Pierce Mill Road, N.W.	Alterations to
HPA. 90-38	Homi Kharas/Shelley Yerman Residence	roof & dormers - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed alterations to roof and addition of dormers.

S.L. 90-08	5916 17th Street, N.W. William Chandler Residence	Installation of vinyl siding on gables - permit
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ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed installation of vinyl siding on the gables.

S.L. 90-15	125 D Street, S.E.	Alterations to
HPA. 90-81	Bonnie Holles Residence	rear - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed alterations to rear which comply with previously approved concept. See previous Action (S.L. 89-200).

S.L. 90-04	450 New Jersey Avenue, N.W.	Addition to rear
HPA. 90-36	Congressman C. Ballenger Residence	- permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed rear addition.

OLD GEORGETOWN SUBMISSIONS

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
* O.G. 90-05	3214 O Street, N.W.	Addition
HPA. 90-30	Joseph Canzeri	- permit
(See O.G. 89-248)	Office and gallery	

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed addition shown in working drawings which comply with concept design approved by Commission 21 September 1989.

O.G. 90-07	1620 30th Street, N.W.	Alterations to
HPA. 90-32	Thomas and Evelyn Wilcox	front and rear
	Residence	- permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed alterations (which include removal of a rear addition) converting the existing two apartment unit structure to a single family residence.

O.G. 90-03	1079 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.	Awning
HPA. 90-26	Shop Associates	- permit
	Nature Food Centres	

ACTION: Recommend against issuance of permit for this full-width bull nose awning which is inappropriate to this historic structure. Recommend resubmission of a shed-type awning the width of the show window and mounted under bottom of existing cornice. Lettering must be confined to the valance.

O.G. 90-06	1263 35th Street, N.W.	Projecting sign
HPA. 90-31	Mazyar Tahoori	- permit
	Bodywares	

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed projecting sign PROVIDED that existing bull nose awning at entrance is removed. Recommend resubmission for shed-type awning of a size that will fit within the masonry opening without obscuring the decorative doorway surround.

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
O.G. 89-272	3117 N Street, N.W.	Fence
HPA. 89-1097	Jim Killette Residence	- permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed partial replacement of existing stockade fence which will have limited visibility from public space.

O.G. 89-257	1637 35th Street, N.W. Richard J. McCoey Residence	New garage and deck - permit
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ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed new garage, fence, garden deck, and landscape plantings as shown in supplemental drawings received and dated 24 October 1989.

O.G. 90-01	3139 Dumbarton Street, N.W. George McTigue Residence	Repairs to outbuilding - permit
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ACTION: Returned without Action. Submission not visible from public space.

O.G. 90-04	1615 34th Street, N.W. Ann Satterthwaite Residence	Alterations to rear - permit
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ACTION: Returned without Action. Submission not visible from public space.

O.G. 90-14	1901 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Sidney S. Zlotnik Citibank	Sign - revised permit
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ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for revised sign to say CITIBANK only which complies with all conditions previously approved (See Action O.G. 89-122).

15 November 1989

Appendix II

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
O.G. 89-276	3240 Prospect Street, N.W. PDS Associates Office building	Three security gates - permit

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for proposed security gates. Recommend submission for approval of additional security measures should they be deemed necessary.

15 November 1989

Appendix II

ADDENDUM

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
O.G. 89-257	1637 35th Street, N.W. Richard J. McCooey Residence	New garage and deck - permit

ACTION: See letter to Hampton Cross dated 24 November 1989.

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

15 November 1989

The meeting was convened at 10:30 a.m. in the Commission of Fine Arts offices at 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D. C., after a tour of project sites.

Members present: Hon. J. Carter Brown, Chairman
 Hon. Neil J. Porterfield, Vice Chairman
 Hon. Frederick E. Hart
 Hon. Diane Wolf

Staff present: Mr. Charles H. Atherton, Secretary
 Mr. Donald B. Myer, Assistant Secretary
 Mr. Jeffrey R. Carson
 Mrs. Sue Kohler
 Mr. Jose Martinez-Canino

National Capital
Planning Commission

staff present: Mr. Patrick Tribe

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Minutes of the 19 October 1989 meeting: approved.

B. Dates of next meetings: approved as:

14 December 1989 (Thursday)
18 January 1990 (Thursday)

C. Museum of Natural History. Parking lot security lighting; report. Vice Chairman Porterfield reported that he had viewed a mock-up with the staff and considered the tree lighting effective

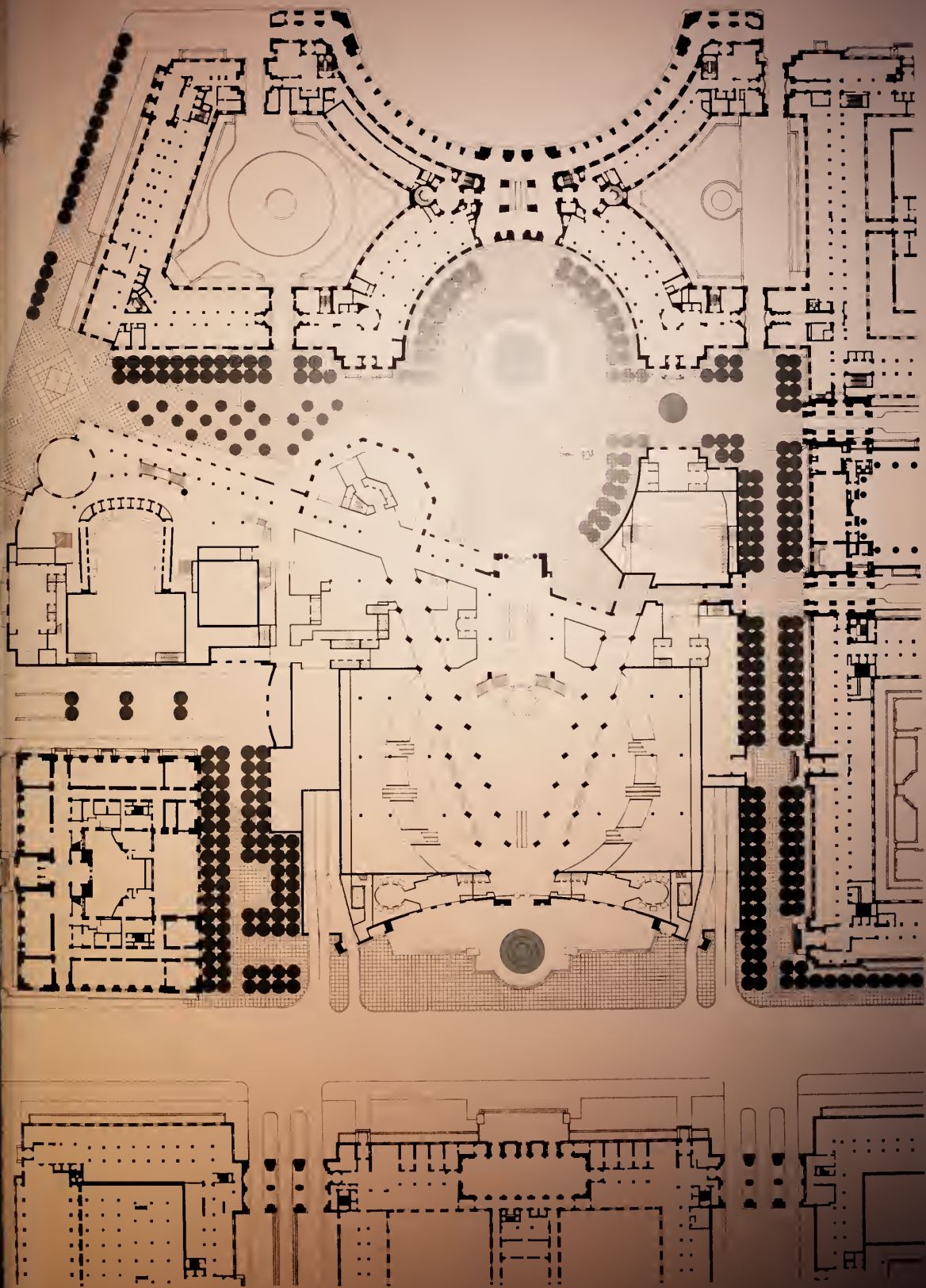
and not overly bright. He said the post fixtures had not been in place, but recalled that the Commission had not anticipated any problems with them.

II. SUBMISSIONS AND REVIEWS

A. Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation

CFA 15/NOV/89-1, ICTC (International Cultural and Trade Center, Federal Triangle development site, 14th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Before the applicants were introduced, Miss Wolf commented that this was a very important project; she asked if any of the members thought they had a conflict of interest. When there were no replies in the affirmative, she noted that the Chairman had recused himself from the discussion and voting on a project submitted by developer Oliver Carr, because Mr. Carr had at one time made a donation to the National Gallery of Art, of which the Chairman was Director. Reading from the Gallery's 1985 Annual Report, she noted that the architect for the ICTC development, I.M. Pei & Partners, was also a contributor, and she asked how this differed from the Oliver Carr situation. The Chairman said he was not aware of any contribution by the Pei firm and would leave it up to the Commission as to whether he should recuse himself. Mr. Hart and Mr. Porterfield both said they did not see any reason why he should, and discussion of the project began. (At the end of the presentation, Mr. Brown said he had meanwhile received an explanation from the National Gallery of the mention of the Pei firm. The architect of the Gallery had solicited and obtained the transference of certain files from the Pei firm relating to the designing in the 1960's of the Gallery's East Building.)

The Assistant Secretary recalled that the members had been briefed previously on this project and had received material outlining the proposals of seven competing development teams. He then introduced Jay Brodie, executive director of PADC. Mr. Brodie commented on the Commission's aid in establishing the guidelines for this project, and then reviewed the competition and the selection of the Delta Group, which included developer William Zeckendorf and architect James Freed of Pei, Cobb & Freed (formerly I. M. Pei & Partners). Mr. Brodie praised the work of the winning team, saying that they had met the program requirements, given the PADC Board ideas they had not thought of before, and provided more open space than had been expected. He commented that the new development differed from Andrew Mellon's original Federal Triangle in that it would be a public building, not one devoted just to bureaucratic offices. He added that the architecture was not



Site Plan
1 inch = 20 feet

THE
FEDERAL
TRUST

CFA 15 November 89-1
ICTC at Federal Triangle
Freed



19. View at Pennsylvania Avenue Looking Southwest

THE
FEDERAL
TRIANGLE
DEVELOPMENT

A Division of The American Planning Corporation

CFA 15 November 89-1
ICTC at Federal Triangle
Freed



18. View at Fourteenth Street Looking Northeast

THE
FEDERAL
TRIANGLE
DEVELOPMENT

CFA 15 November 89-1
ICTC at Federal Triangle
Freed

intended to emulate that of classical Rome, Paris or Leningrad, but to exemplify the best American architecture of the late 20th century.

Architect James Freed was then introduced to discuss his design. He said he had had to consider several aspects of the project: urban design, formal qualities, landscaping, and use. He stressed the importance of the public use aspect, noting that it would be a key place for visitors to the city and would contain theatres, restaurants, shops, and space for exhibitions and international festivals. He commented that, unlike the original Triangle architects, he did not have to provide numerous courtyards to admit light and air since air conditioning and vastly improved artificial light were now available. Noting that people are usually hesitant to enter government office buildings because of their strong, monumental appearance, he said he had tried to ensure that the entrances were numerous and "friendly", that they invited people in. He said there would be a 34-foot-high base, like the original Triangle buildings, and the public functions would be located in this area, with government offices above; the office areas would have their own entrances.

Mr. Freed then showed slides of the Triangle area, including several aerial views. He noted that Constitution Avenue was very formal, lined with government buildings on both sides, while Pennsylvania Avenue was less so, with more "incidents", particularly because of the private development on the north side. He pointed out that the diagonal avenue now ended at 13th Street, because of the construction of Freedom Plaza and Pershing Park, and that the two blocks beyond had quite a different character.

Turning to the new development, Mr. Freed discussed its various features using drawings and a model. On Pennsylvania Avenue a new building, housing a performing arts theatre and the Woodrow Wilson Center, would fill the space between 13th and 13 1/2 Streets, framing the District Building with a similar massing but without the heavy classical detail; there would be a curved tower at 13th Street. He felt that a major opening into the new development had to occur at this point and had placed it diagonally (perpendicular to Pennsylvania Avenue rather than Constitution), forming a wide entrance plaza with an informal arrangement of trees. The 700 foot long wall of the new building, forming one side of the plaza, was broken up with a low, octagonal pavilion, open and transparent, that would contain ICTC functions, primarily restaurants. Beyond that the building curved out in a partial completion of the hemicycle of the former Post Office Department building, but allowing the open space to flow through to Constitution Avenue through an entrance next to the Departmental Auditorium. Mr. Freed showed a slide of the unfinished ends of the

Post Office building and said they would be completed, although not with a pavilion detail. In front of the Post Office hemicycle would be a circular fountain area, at the Metro entrance.

At the south the new building would face the Customs Building and the Departmental Auditorium across a walk lined with rows of trees. There would be a similar treatment on the north side, facing the District Building. Turning to the 14th Street facade, Mr. Freed first showed slides of the Commerce Building, noting its great strength and mass. He said he thought it needed some relief on the opposite side of the street and so had curved the new building back, providing some open space and an attractive setting for the existing Straus fountain. Mr. Freed showed elevation drawings, noting in several places the large, blank panels that were intended to be filled with artwork. He said the cornices would be at the same height as the Federal Triangle, and although the fenestration would not be the same, there would be the same proportion of window to wall.

Mr. Freed discussed the interior arrangement briefly, pointing out the circular, skylit arcade inside the 14th Street entrance with several levels of exhibit and retail space. From the entrance two diagonal walks would lead the visitor through the arcade to the pavilion on the north or to one of the theatres on the south.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Freed for his presentation and noted that the project was only in the conceptual stage. Mr. Freed agreed that many things had yet to be worked out, including the detailing of the pavilion and the facades. He said the design would have to be developed further before he would know if the mixture of classical and contemporary elements would work. Mr. Porterfield said he was very excited about the design and thought the fundamental principles and relationship of forms were very good; he stressed that it must be a 21st century development. Mr. Hart said he had not wanted to see the Great Plaza space closed in with a building, but he thought this was an excellent design and would even admit that he did not miss the Classical orders. He did feel that the detailing of the 14th Street facade should be very rich, and he said he was happy to see that the architecture would be complemented by art, as it was in the original Triangle. Miss Wolf asked about the cost of the development; Mr. Brodie said it would be about \$665 million, although that figure could change. Mr. Freed said the heavy limestone facing and extensive use of bronze would keep the cost up. Miss Wolf said she hoped there would be no substitution of cast concrete for limestone, and Mr. Brodie told her that the use of limestone was written into the guidelines. The Chairman agreed on the importance of using stone, noting how much better the Hirshhorn Gallery would have looked if travertine, as originally planned, had been used instead of

concrete. Miss Wolf said she was bothered by the pavilion and hoped it would not block the view and destroy the perception of the space beyond. Mr. Freed said it would be very transparent, but he agreed there were problems with it that had to be worked out. Miss Wolf then asked why there was such a limited amount of parking (2500 cars); Mr. Brodie said the water table was high and only two underground levels were possible; additionally, the city streets could not take any more traffic and there was a Metro stop at the door. He said there was a possibility that there would be special parking for employees provided at outlying Metro lots.

The Chairman said he thought the design had a brilliant parti and liked the concept, including the festive spaces, although he had some reservations about the pavilion in its present form and cautioned against using a "stripped classicism" detailing. A motion was made to approve the conceptual design; it was seconded and carried unanimously. Exhibit A

B. U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District

CFA 15/NOV/89-2, Walter Reed Army Medical Center. Design for multi-level parking structure. Staff member Jeffrey Carson said this submission was for a five story parking garage, which would address the Commission's previous concerns about the excessive amount of surface parking on the hospital grounds. He noted that Mr. Porterfield and Miss Wolf had inspected the site on their pre-meeting tour, and pointed out the location near Fern Street and Alaska Avenue, northeast of the main entrance off 16th Street. He said the brick and cast concrete structure would be 348 feet long and about 49 feet high. Mr. Carson then introduced Murray Geier from the Army Corps of Engineers, who in turn introduced Walter Reed's planner and architect, Reza Fassihi, to make the presentation.

Mr. Fassihi made reference to the 1976 master plan, and on drawings and photographs pointed out the location of the hospital and the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, buildings near the proposed parking structure. He said that an old building on the site, of no historical or architectural importance, would be demolished, and noted that because of a change in grade, only three stories of the parking structure would be seen from the hospital. The precast concrete would be the same as that used for the hospital and pathology buildings, and the red brick trim had been used to tie in with the old brick buildings on the medical center grounds. In answer to a question from Mr. Hart, Mr. Fassihi said the parking structure would have no impact on the old brick buildings. Mr. Porterfield noted the lack of room for planting, but asked that as many trees as possible be used to screen the

structure, especially from the residential property on Fern Street. There was no further discussion and with that suggestion, the project was unanimously approved. Exhibit B

C. General Services Administration, National Capital Region

CFA 15/NOV/89-3, U. S. Tax Court, cooling tower addition, 2nd and E Streets, N.W. Revised design. (Previous: CFA 26/JUL/89-4.) Staff member Jose Martinez recalled that as presented in July, the design showed two cooling towers, placed across the freeway plaza from the building; the design had been reluctantly approved because of its close proximity to a shelter for the homeless. Since that time, Mr. Martinez said, the twin towers had proved to be too expensive, and GSA would now like to use only one, in the same location, that would be 65 feet long, 10 feet wide, and 10-15 feet high, depending on the grade. The NCPC representative present at the meeting, Patrick Tribe, was asked if the planning commission had commented on the revised design. He said there had been only a staff report thus far, which had criticized the single structure as being too high and found the twin towers preferable. Mr. Porterfield said he would like to see further studies made in an effort to put the tower inside the building, but the Chairman said that because of the considerable grade change to the south he did not think the structure would be that visible and might also act as a buffer against the freeway noise.

A representative from GSA, Diane Stolz, asked to comment. She said the plan to have twin cooling towers had come in \$400,000 over the budget; to put the tower inside would require giving up most of the parking and would also be prohibitively expensive. She did not think the single tower would have a negative visual impact; she noted that the street was very wide and open, the buildings large and scaleless, and observed that the tower would be experienced only from the side. She said it would be buried as much as possible, but there was a sewer line running beneath that had to be considered. She said they had been working with the Park Service on a landscaping plan and showed drawings prepared by architect William Reed. New street trees and evergreen shrubs would be planted to the north of the tower; trees could not be planted at the south corner because the visibility of motorists approaching the intersection would be impaired. The Chairman asked about the facing material for the tower and was told it would be granite, the same kind used for the Tax Court building.

Mr. Porterfield said he was reluctant to approve this because it was just another example of eating into public space and then landscaping the offending structure in an attempt to hide it. If there was no other solution, he thought they should at least try to plant two more trees in front of the tower and see if they would

grow. The Chairman thought the detailing of the exterior and the kind of materials used would also make a difference. There was no further discussion and the revised concept design was approved, with a final landscape plan, materials, and exterior details to be seen later. Exhibit C

D. Department of the Treasury, U. S. Mint

CFA 15/NOV/89-4, Jesse Owens Medal. Designs. Staff member Sue Kohler showed the members drawings for this medal. On the obverse was a portrait of Owens, taken from a photograph; the reverse showed Owens as an Olympic sprinter. Mrs. Kohler introduced Kevin Cullinane from the Mint; he said the medal had been designed by James Ferrell, a sculptor/engraver at the Mint, and the words on the reverse, characterizing Owens, had been chosen by the family. There were no objections to the obverse design, or to the figure on the reverse, but the members were concerned that there were a great many words on the reverse and they were not arranged very effectively. It was recommended that the wreath around the edge be eliminated and some of the inscriptions put in its place. Plaster models will be seen later. Exhibit D

E. District of Columbia Government, Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs

1. Shipstead-Luce Act

a. S.L. 90-10, 2301 N Street, N.W. Multi-story residential building. Permit. (Previous: S.L. 89--43, S.L. 87-123.) Mr. Carson noted that this project, by architect Alan Lockman, and the following one, by Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, were within a block of each other and had the same developer; in both cases, the conceptual designs had been approved and working drawings were being presented for permit application. Miss Wolf asked the Chairman if he might want to recuse himself from voting because of a contribution made by Skidmore, Owings & Merrill to the National Gallery of Art. He agreed to do this without any information as to the size or nature of the gift.

Mr. Lockman was introduced and said there had been few changes since the Commission had last seen the design. There had been minor alterations to the penthouse, making the structure more open, and changes to the landscaping because it had been designed originally for an early building concept that had been slightly larger than the one finally approved; he said the changes had been worked out in consultation with the National Park Service and noted also that some of the adjacent public areas would be lighted and

maintained by the developer. Miss Wolf asked what the height of the building was; Mr. Lockman said it was 65 feet in an area zoned for 90 feet.

There were no objections voiced to the final design; the Chairman asked if there were any comments from the community. Marie Turim, representing the ANC, said her organization had repeatedly opposed the project because its height and bulk made it inappropriate to the site, which was in a neighborhood of small-scale dwellings. She said they would support a townhouse development on the site. Mr. Porterfield thought it was too late to come in with objections at this point as the project had already been approved. Miss Wolf said that after hearing Ms. Turim's comments she would like to support the ANC. Mr. Lockman noted that he had been coming to the Commission since 1985 with various revisions, and the project had passed all zoning review. (Records of the Commission of Fine Arts have not disclosed any previous written or verbal objection to the project by the ANC, although the ANC's position was requested in January 1989.) Exhibits E, E-1

b. S.L. 90-09, 2450 N Street, N.W. Multi-story office/residential building. Permit. (Previous: S.L. 89-33) Mr. Martinez recalled the Commission's previous review of this mixed-use building, with five floors of office space and three of residential units. At the time, the members had asked that some device other than awnings be used to help the building's proportions at the point where the design changed from office to residential. He introduced Mr. Briggs from Skidmore, Owings & Merrill to show a revised scheme. Mr. Briggs said the Commission's suggestion of using a screen wall at the sixth floor terrace had been developed, and he showed drawings of the new detail. He also showed material samples: a rose-colored brick for the office section with a light-colored precast concrete above. Miss Wolf asked if the ANC had made any comments; Mr. Martinez said they had not. She asked the architect about the design of the penthouse, saying she found the windows disturbing. Mr. Briggs said the windows had been used because it was a residential recreation area, and the openness would make it more inviting. There were no further questions, but the Chairman's recusal had taken away the quorum and final approval could not be granted. Exhibits E, E-1

(The agenda order was changed and an Old Georgetown Act submission discussed next.)

E.2.c. O.G. 90-02, 3401 R Street, N.W. Alteration to existing front porch. Permit. (Previous: O.G. 87-168.) The Assistant Secretary introduced Craig Goodman, the owner, who showed slides of his house and the entire row, noting that although originally all the houses had had porches, some had been completely or partially removed. He said he had requested permission to remove the porch previously, because it cut out a considerable amount of light, but the request had been denied because of the effect on the historic character of the house. He showed the old design and then a new one, which he thought would not destroy the character of the house.

Mrs. Kathleen Graff, representing the Citizens Association of Georgetown, asked to comment. She noted the illegal changes that Mr. Goodman had made to the 34th Street side of the house, and asked that if any further changes were to be made, the illegal work be reviewed also.

The Chairman thought the row of houses, designed by a well-known Washington architect in the 1920s, did have historic merit, and although others had removed their porches at some time in the past, this did not mean that all the porches should be allowed to go; he thought it was particularly important to keep Mr. Goodman's corner porch, and he did not think the Commission's position had changed. In answer to a question from Mr. Hart as to his reasons for wanting to remove the porch, Mr. Goodman said that in addition to cutting down on light, he considered it a threat to his family's security because on occasion vagrants had tried to sleep there. Mr. Porterfield said that although he sympathized with any problems Mr. Goodman might have, the Commission's mandate was to consider the effect of change on the historic district, and he would have to vote against this change; Mr. Hart agreed. Mr. Porterfield made a motion to disapprove the project; it was seconded and carried unanimously. Exhibit E

(The agenda order was resumed with a discussion of the remaining items under the Shipstead-Luce Act.)

c. S.L. 90-11, Corcoran Gallery of Art. Modification of previously approved garage entrance on E Street. Conceptual. (Previous: S.L. 88-83.) Mr. Carson reviewed the previously approved plans for an addition to the Corcoran Gallery and said they had included a garage entrance through an infill structure in the existing alley between the gallery and the adjacent building to the west. The architect, Warren Cox of Hartman/Cox, was now requesting permission to add another entrance through the facade of the 1927 E Street gallery addition, replacing two ground story windows. The members looked at drawings and photographs, had no objections, and unanimously approved the modification. Exhibit E

d. Appendix I. Approved.2. Old Georgetown Acta. O.G. 89-270, 1217 Potomac Street, N.W. Alterations and two-story addition. Conceptual. (Previous: O.G. 87-166.)

The Assistant Secretary said the addition would consist of replacing an existing garage and adding a story above it. He passed around the report of the Old Georgetown Board, saying that the Board had seen it twice and was now recommending approval. Architect David Schwarz was introduced; he said he had designed a considerably larger addition for this house in 1987 that had been approved, but the new owner did not like it. He showed drawings of the alterations to the rear of the house and the new addition to the side, noting that the side wall faced an 8 foot wide alley and would never be seen as it was on the elevation drawing. Questioned about the interiors of this early 19th century house, he said they would be completely redone as there was little left of historical or architectural interest.

Kara Kent, representing the ANC, said the ANC's concern was that the front facade would be all that was left of the original house; she objected to the rear alterations and the change in the roof line and said the Commission should not review the project until the architect had received a demolition permit. Mr. Schwarz said he was not altering the roof line, and he reiterated that his plans had gone through the normal permit process and the District government had made the determination that a demolition permit was not required. There was further discussion about the need for a demolition permit. Mr. Hart did not see the need to defer review on the basis of whether or not a demolition permit was required; the Chairman took the same point of view and asked if there were any objections to the proposals. Mr. Hart and Mr. Porterfield said they had none and would vote for approval, but Miss Wolf would not, because she had not seen the recommendation of the D. C. Historic Preservation Review Board. The project was thus approved by majority vote. Exhibit E

b. O.G. 89-229, 2715 Q Street, N.W. National Society of Colonial Dames, Dumbarton House. Renovation and additions. Conceptual. (Previous: O.G. 87-211, O.G. 87-186, O.G. 87-142.)

Mr. Martinez reviewed this proposal, which would be mostly underground, but also included a two story addition in the rear. He said the Georgetown Board had been concerned about the design of the courtyard and had reviewed five schemes; Scheme B, with limestone arches, had been the one preferred. Mr. Martinez showed drawings of the five courtyard schemes and of the project as a whole. A question was asked about the visibility of the rear addition; the Assistant Secretary said it would be visible only

from Evermay, and the owner of that historic house, Mrs. Peter Belin, had given her approval to the plans. Mr. Martinez said it would be necessary to remove an existing wing of recent vintage during construction, but it would be rebuilt. There were no objections to the concept design and it was unanimously approved.

Exhibit E

c. O.G. 90-02, 3401 R Street, N.W. See above.

d. Appendix II. The appendix was approved with the exception of O.G. 89-257, 1637 35th Street, N.W., about which a discussion took place with a neighbor, Carol Thayer. (Miss Wolf left the meeting after approving the Appendix.) Mrs. Thayer, through her attorney, objected to the project and said the owner was proceeding with new plans that had not been seen by the reviewing agencies. The Assistant Secretary said the complaints listed in a letter sent by Mrs. Thayer's attorney to the Commission related to zoning and other matters not in the jurisdiction of the Commission and should be directed to the District government. He said the project as seen from public space had been approved by the Georgetown Board, and he thought the neighbors should try to work out their differences. Ms. Kent said the ANC had not seen the project. There was no further discussion.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

EXHIBIT A

CAROLYN J. DEEVER

NEIL H. PORTERFIELD

ROY M. GOODMAN

PASCAL REGAN

FREDERICK E. HART

DIANE WOLF

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-566-1066

29 November 1989

Dear Richard:

I am happy to report that at its meeting on 15 November 1989, the Commission of Fine Arts reviewed and approved the concept designs for the International Cultural and Trade Center to be located in the Great Plaza area of the Federal Triangle. The feeling was unanimous that this scheme has the potential for achieving everything that all of us have so ardently hoped for since the inception of placing ICTC on this site. The program goals appear to have been intelligently met, as well as the planning and design objectives which pose such an extraordinary challenge in the unique and very special context that is the Federal Triangle. While respecting the existing architectural character, this new design offers a freshness in the special way it relates to Pennsylvania Avenue, through the introduction of a new geometry that sounds a keynote to the character for the rest of the design. It is the strength of this idea that will allow the subsequent architectural features to develop in their own way rather than be slave to the literal reproduction of the details found on the surrounding buildings.

The Commission was also heartened by the serious commitment that the winning team has made to integrating other art forms into the fabric of the building design. So often these are treated as mere "add-ons", and not essential to the building as a whole, but here, we do not take this to be the case. There are opportunities for sculpture in both free-standing and relief form, and for mural paintings as well, and they should be capitalized upon to the fullest extent possible. We note that a consultant to address this aspect of the development is an integral part of the team, and we look forward to being involved at an early stage.

Finally, I think it is also most appropriate to commend the PADC staff for the thoroughness and highly professional manner that was exhibited at every stage of what was a long and demanding process - from the formulation of the program to the conduct of the competition, and, finally, the selection process. The fact that such a potentially fine development has emerged from all this is testimony to their success, and a "well done" is very much in order.

Sincerely,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Richard Hauser, Chairman
Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation
1331 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Suite 1220 North
Washington, D.C. 20004-1703

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

EXHIBIT B

CAROLYN J. DEEVER

NEIL H. PORTERFIELD

ROY M. GOODMAN

PASCAL REGAN

FREDERICK E. HART

DIANE WOLF

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-566-1066

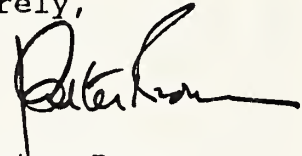
29 November 1989

Dear Mr. Kennon:

During its meeting of 15 November 1989, the Commission reviewed designs for a new parking structure on the main campus of the Walter Reed Army Medical Center. The members recognize the need for this facility and have no objection to the design proposed. In order to soften the view of the structure, however, the Commission recommends landscape screening with a dense planting of trees particularly along the boundary with Fern Street.

We would like to have these plans submitted for our review once they have been completed.

Sincerely,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Herbert H. Kennon
Chief, Engineering Division
Directorate of Military Programs
Department of the Army
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Washington, D.C. 20314-1000

: yellowish . . .

space to exist. The mechanical effects of a vacuum must be taken into account as to how air, in fact, does not fill voids. In addition, with certain solid boundaries, these voids behave in a manner that is ultimately determined by the boundary conditions. In July, 1961, while these voids were being investigated, it was noted that, in fact, the voids having been shown to be in a state of fluidity. This is a recent discovery which is being carried over in the U.S. Tax Court, on July 24, 1962. The Digital Improvement Division, located in a research to computer science, is expected by the T. H. Jones, Director of the At its meeting on 1 November, the Commission of the Atlantic

[illegible]

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

EXHIBIT C

CAROLYN J. DEEVER

NEIL H. PORTERFIELD

ROY M. GOODMAN

PASCAL REGAN

FREDERICK E. HART

DIANE WOLF

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-566-1066

29 November 1989

Dear Mr. Handley:

At its meeting on 15 November, the Commission of Fine Arts, in response to a request by Walter E. Huber, Director of the Capital Improvement Division, reviewed a proposal to construct a large cooling tower for the U.S. Tax Court on 3rd Street, N.W., just east of Judiciary Square. This is the second scheme that has been presented so far, the first having been shown to the Commission in July 1989. While these concept designs have been given preliminary approval, the Commission acted, in both instances, with considerable reluctance since each raises serious questions as to how far, if at all, GSA should intrude into public space to satisfy the mechanical needs of a government building.

As we understand the situation, the U.S. Tax Court has for years relied on receiving its chilled water supply from the Department of Labor Building situated a block or so to the south. Apparently, the current feeling is that this arrangement has certain drawbacks, and that the Tax Court itself ought to produce whatever it needs and not rely on an outside source. The trouble is that it has been concluded there is no room in the existing building or on its site to accomplish this task, so that the equipment, some 60' long and at least 10' high, is proposed to be installed next to the 2nd Street right of way, a half block away to the east, on the other side of a depressed major expressway. While this site may be justified from a mechanical-engineering vantage point, we find it far from ideal in the context of intelligent urban planning and design. The precedent of setting such an enormous piece of equipment in such a prominent setting as the right of way of a public street is far reaching indeed. I can't think of any other instance in the development of this city where such an installation has been permitted. If this kind of solution were to be followed every time the mechanical needs of a building are to be met, then the cumulative effect on the appearance of the Capital would indeed be devastating.

I am highly indebted to you for your approval of the
proposal. I have been very happy to have your
approval of the proposal.

Sincerely,
[Signature]

W. C. C. C. C.
[Signature]

W. C. C. C. C.
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W. C. C. C. C.
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W. C. C. C. C.
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W. C. C. C. C.
[Signature]

Page 2
29 November 1989

I strongly urge that despite our reluctant approval at our November meeting, GSA give a long and very hard look at alternatives before proceeding any further with a project that raises so many potentially serious concerns.

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. James C. Handley
Regional Administrator
General Services Administration
National Capital Region
7th and D Streets, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20407

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THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

EXHIBIT D

J. CARTER BROWN, Chairman

CAROLYN J. DEAVER

NEIL H. PORTERFIELD

ROY M. GOODMAN

PASCAL REGAN

FREDERICK E. HART

DIANE WOLF

CHARLES H. ATHERTON, Secretary

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006
202-566-1066

29 November 1989

Dear Mrs. Pope:

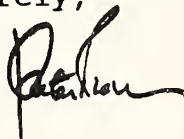
The Commission of Fine Arts reviewed designs for the Jesse Owens medal with Mr. Kevin Cullinane from the Mint at its 15 November 1989.

The design for the obverse was approved, as was the figure of Owens on the reverse; it was thought, however, that the word placement on this side needed more study. In particular, "Humanitarian" and "Athlete" seemed scattered and ineffectively placed. To accommodate the many words on the reverse side of the medal, it was recommended that the wreath around the edge be eliminated, and "Humanitarian", "Athlete", and "Act of Congress, 1988" be put in its place.

A second comment concerned the words below the figure of Owens: "Determination, Dedication, Discipline, Attitude". They are slightly crowded, and it was suggested that, if Mrs. Owens does not object, the word "Attitude" could be eliminated; it comes as an anti-climax after the other alliterative three, and since they, in a sense, describe his attitude, its use is not really necessary.

The Commission looks forward to seeing a revised design for the reverse, and plaster models when they are ready. Our next meeting is scheduled for 14 December.

Sincerely,



J. Carter Brown
Chairman

The Honorable Donna Pope, Director
United States Mint
633 3rd Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20220

AGENDA ITEM EXHIBIT

15 November 1989

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
S.L. 90-10	2301 N Street, N.W. Boston Properties Residential	Construct multi- story building - permit

ACTION: See letter to Mr. Hampton Cross dated 24 November 1989.

S.L. 90-09	2450 N Street, N.W. Square 24 West Associates Commercial/Residential	Construct multi- story building - permit
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ACTION: See letter to Hampton Cross dated 24 November 1989.

S.L. 90-11	17th and New York Avenue, N.W.	Modification of
HPA. 90-86	Corcoran Gallery of Art	garage entrance on E Street - conceptual

ACTION: No objection to issuance of permit for modification of previously approved design in order to provide a garage opening through the existing rear addition on E Street.

O.G. 89-270	1217 Potomac Street, N.W.	Alterations and
HPA. 89-1089	Robert Lehrman Residence	two-story addition - conceptual

ACTION: No objection to renovation and additions, or demolition of garage wing only. No other portion of house visible from public space should be razed or removed. Recommend that submission of working drawings include additional refinement of proportions and details for permit review when ready.

<u>NO.</u>	<u>ADDRESS AND OWNER</u>	<u>PROJECT</u>
O.G. 89-229	2715 Q Street, N.W.	Renovation and
HPA. 89-981	National Society of Colonial Dames Dumbarton House	additions - conceptual

ACTION: No objection to concept of proposed additions and landscaping as shown in drawings received and dated 16 August 1989 and supplemental drawings identified as scheme "D" received and dated 31 October 1989. Submit permit working drawings, detailed landscape plans, and material samples for review when ready.

O.G. 90-02	3401 R Street, N.W.	Alteration to
HPA. 90-21	Craig Goodman Residence	existing front porch - permit

ACTION: Recommend against issuance of permit for proposed porch alteration. The property is one of a row of houses built as an architectural unit in 1922. Clearly, the porches were part of the original design intent, setting the rhythm for the buildings. It is on that basis that the Commission believes the porch of this corner residence should be retained in full as a visual anchor for the row, despite the fact that some neighbors have removed their porches. The Commission feels that the proposed scheme is contrary to the architectural integrity of the house in question and of the row as a viable element of vernacular style. The house should retain as much of its original fabric as possible.

THE COMMISSION ON THE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY ACT OF CONGRESS, JULY 19, 1965

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION

TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AND SENATE

1965-1966

Mr. Cross:

I am pleased to confirm your phone conversation with Don Myer, who is now at the Commission of Fine Arts. He has been on leave since his appointment in 1964. He is now in New York City and will be in the office of the Commission on the Arts. I have received your letter of approval of the Commission's report. I did not have a question in my mind about the changes on issues outstanding, and the Commission's findings to the approval of the Commission was not a doubt.

As you know, the Commission on the Arts is a permanent body established in the Department of the Interior. It is composed of representatives of the various arts and sciences, and it is the duty of the Commission to advise the Secretary of the Interior on all matters relating to the arts and sciences. The Commission's report is a valuable contribution to the knowledge of the Secretary and the public.

Sincerely,



Frances H. Anderson
Secretary

Mr. Cross, Administrator
Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Department of the Interior
611 North West, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED • BY • CONGRESS • MAY • 17, 1910

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

EXHIBIT E-1

202-566-1066

24 November 1989

Dear Mr. Cross:

This confirms your phone conversation with Don Myer on 16 November 1989 about two agenda items from the Commission of Fine Arts meeting on 15 November 1989. These are S.L. 90-09, 2450 N Street, N.W. and S.L. 90-10, 2301 N Street, N.W.; both new buildings have received previous concept approval by the Commission. Though the Commission did not have a quorum, there were no design changes or issues outstanding, and the conformance of working drawings to the approved concept drawings was recorded.

As you know, the Shipstead-Luce Act allows the District Government to issue permits in the absence of a formal report from the Commission that either approves or disapproves the project. Under these circumstances, we would have no objection to proceeding on this basis.

Sincerely,



Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

Mr. Hampton Cross, Administrator
Building and Land Regulations
D.C. Government
614 H Street, N.W.
Room 312
Washington, D.C. 20001

